Chapter 9 TROPICAL CYCLONE (TYPHOON) PROCEDURE

When tropical cyclone warning signal No.1 is issued

Pilot office will:-

- 1. Give warning to tanker at Tolo harbour Town Gas wharf, remind the agent that tugs will require at least 5 hours notice and the danger of pilot boarding station is exposed to weather.
- 2. Give warning to vessels at TSK Power Station, TSK CCC, SWSTL and Lamma Power Station.
- 3. Give warning to all tankers at tanker berths.

When tropical cyclone warning signal No.3 is issued

Pilot office should ensure:

- 1. Tankers at all berths (including Tolo) should clear berth as soon as possible.
- 2. Bulkers at TSK PST & TSK CCC, SWSTL and Lamma PST should clear berth as soon as possible.
- 3. Vessels not moored at a classified typhoon buoy or oversized vessels should clear mooring buoy as soon as possible.

If tropical cyclone warning signal No.8 is likely to be issued or the wind speed or wave height is likely to exceed the acceptable limit, Pilot office will, as far as practicable, give at least THREE hours warning to all shipping through MARDEP before pilotage service is suspended. Templates at appendix to this chapter should be used.

Tugs may be used for pilot transportation if pilot boats could not be operated in heavy sea.

All ships under repair at shipyards should be advised to clear docks as soon as possible especially for those vessels requiring towage to the buoy.

Pilot office will avoid the acceptance of any order for ships in bound to buoy at night when tropical cyclone warning signal No.3 is issued unless the prevailing condition is favourable.

General guidelines for suspension of pilotage service:-

- Sustained wind speed over 33 knots; and/or
- Wave height over 1.5 metres.

General guidelines for resumption of pilotage service:-

- When all cyclone warning is cancelled; and/or
- Subject to prevailing weather and sea conditions.

Other useful information

MARDEP VTC Duty Controller 2233 7801-3
MARDEP VTC (FAX) 2858 6646
Hong Kong Observatory Dial-a-Weather service 1878200

Appendix I to Chapter 9 – template for suspension of pilotage service

Headline: 領港服務將暫停

G400 Headline: 領港服務將暫停

電台及電視台當值宣布員注意:

請盡速播出下列消息及在適當時間重播:

海事處接獲香港領港會通知,由於熱帶氣旋關係,領港服務將會由今日(月日)上午/下午 時起暫停。請船東、船隻代理、船主及其他港口使用人士注意。

Headline: Pilotage service to be suspended

G400 Headline: Pilotage service to be suspended

Content Body:

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

The Marine Department has received notification from the Hong Kong Pilots Association Limited that due to the tropical cyclone, pilotage service will be suspended from am/pm today (). Shipowners, agents, masters and other port users are advised to pay attention.

Appendix II to Chapter 9 – template for resumption of pilotage service

Headline: 領港服務將恢復

G400 Headline: 領港服務將恢復

電台及電視台當值宣布員注意:

請盡速播出下列消息及在適當時間重播:

海事處接獲香港領港會通知,領港服務將於今日(月 日) 上午/下午 時起局部恢復,並於稍後天氣好轉時全面恢復。

Headline: Pilotage service to resume

G400 Headline: Pilotage service to resume

Content Body:

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

The Marine Department has received notification from the Hong Kong Pilots Association Limited that pilotage service will partially resume from am/pm today () and will fully resume when weather conditions improve. Shipowners, agents, masters and other port users are advised to pay attention.

Appendix III to Chapter 9 – template for delay in resumption of pilotage service

Headline: 領港服務將延遲恢復

G400 Headline: 領港服務將延遲恢復

電台及電視台當值宣布員注意:

請盡速播出下列消息及在適當時間重播:

海事處接獲香港領港會通知,由於天氣情況惡化,領港服務將延遲至今日(月) 日)上午/下午 時恢復。

Headline: Resumption of pilotage service delayed

G400 Headline: Resumption of pilotage service delayed

Content Body:

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

The Marine Department has received notification from the Hong Kong Pilots Association Limited that due to deteriorating weather conditions, resumption of pilotage service is delayed until am/pm today (). Shipowners, agents, masters and other port users are advised to pay attention.